

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

An electronic ballast having end of lamp life and overheating protection, and automatic reignition and multiple striking capabilities includes AC/DC rectifier, PFC/boost, inverter, and ballast protection and control circuits. The ballast protection and control circuit is operable to place the ballast in a protected state when the lamp load connected to the ballast reaches an end of lamp life condition or the ballast overheats. The ballast protection and control circuit also automatically ignites the lamp load when it is connected to the ballast and generates multiple striking attempts for hard to strike lamp loads. The ballast may be connected to AC or DC power sources and different types of lamp loads, and may include various different types of inverter circuits.